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use a solution of one part Canada balsam in from six to eight parts of turpentine oil.

It is perfectly self-evident that any other balsam soluble in turpentine oil, *i. e.*, turpentine, or a resin soluble in it, will answer the same purpose. Any other volatile oil can also be substituted for turpentine oil.

A DISEASE OF WHITE FIR.*

By Dr. HARTIG.

A disease of the white fir, which caused very great injuries in the Bavarian woods, was discovered by the author, and shows itself in the dying of the bark of younger or older twigs and branches, often for over a hand's length. As a rule, the dying extends over the entire circumference of the twig, and in consequence the parts of the plants situated above this point die in a few years. More rarely the disease is confined to one side of the twig, and does not progress the second year, but an outgrowth occurs at the edge of the dead place. In the dead bark there develop numerous pycnidia, rarely larger than the head of a pin, which rupture the superimposed cork layer. Within the pycnidia arise numerous small, spindle shaped gonidia, which germinate readily. Unfortunately, an acigerous fruiting form has not been found after several years of observations and cultures. To be sure *Peziza calycina* almost constantly produced a luxuriant formation of Apothecia in the immediate neighborhood, yet the absolute proof of its connection with the pycnidial form was impossible. Until it can be perfectly known the author has given this fungus the name *Phoma abietina*, *n. sp.*

NOTES.

By B. T. GALLOWAY.

PREVENTION OF SMUT.

In the first number of THE JOURNAL† we gave a brief review of a paper published in the *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society* of England by J. L. Jensen on "The Propagation and Prevention of Smut in Oats and Barley." The interest shown in this paper has prompted us to publish a description of Mr. Jensen's method of treating the grain, and it is hoped that the suggestions made will enable the experiment stations to test the remedy. Mr. Jensen says:

We have seen that smut can be prevented by dipping the grain in heated water. * * * The grain to be dipped is placed in a shallow cylindrical basket about 12 inches deep, lined with coarse canvas, and provided with a cover made by stretching the canvas over a ring of such a diameter as will pass inside the mouth of the basket.

* Translated from *Botanisches Centralblatt* No. 3, p. 78, 1889, by E. A. Southworth.

† Page 42.